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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 26 April 1951

SUBJECT Information on the Sarande-Konispol Road

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PLACE
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(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
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50X1-HUM

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1. The road from Konispol to Sarande was constructed during the reign of King Zog. It has a sand and gravel surface, with ditches running alongside it; the road itself and the ditches are the object of constant maintenance and repair. At both point R. 404-587 and point R. 408-608, the road is one way for a length of 70-80 meters. It is very dangerous for vehicles to try to pass at each of these points, because the road passes close to the bank of the Pavla River and there is a steep drop. 50X1-HUM
 destruction of either of these lengths of the road would paralyze communications over the highway for a considerable period of time, since it is impossible to go around these points. 50X1-HUM
2. There are two large bridges on this road:
 - a. At point R. 408-616, over the River Pavla. This bridge is of wood, and its reconstruction was completed about 20 December 1950, after three months' work. It is supported on two stone abutments, with a concrete pier in the middle. The surface of the roadway consists of steel girders about 20 centimeters thick, with wood beams 60 centimeters thick over them. The bridge is 30 meters long, 2.5 meters wide, and about 5 meters high.
 - b. At point R. 395-820, over the Bistrice River. This bridge was constructed two years ago, and is made of wood. It is 25 meters long, 3 meters wide, and 6 meters high, and is supported on about 50 wooden piles; the abutments at either end are of concrete.
3. Twice a week there is communication between Sarande and Konispol by postal bus, which leaves Sarande in the morning and returns the same day. During the period of wheat harvesting there are French Berliet trucks moving over this road. Occasionally army trucks use this road, coming from the branch road at R. 358-848, and going as far as Konispol. Only army jeeps travel regularly over this road.
4. 50X1-HUM
 there is a post, telephone, and telegraph center in Sarande which connects with Himre, Delvine, and Konispol. Seven telephone lines lead out of Sarande, and four of them end at Konispol. 50X1-HUM

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